2017 Census of Agriculture

The first Census of Agriculture was conducted in 1840 in 26 states and the District of Columbia.
170 Years Later

NASS conducts the Census of Agriculture in:

- all 50 states
- Puerto Rico
- Guam
- U.S. Virgin Islands
- Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands
- American Samoa

That’s data for more than 3,000 U.S. counties and 30,000 zip codes.
Census of Agriculture

A complete count, taken every five years, of America’s farms and ranches and the people who operate them.
Census of Agriculture

- The most complete agricultural data available.
- The only source of uniform, comprehensive and impartial agricultural data for every county in the nation.
- Information on land use and ownership, operator characteristics and demographics, production practices, income and expenditures, and more.
Farm Defined

Any place from which at least $1,000 of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year.
YOUR VOICE
Your Voice

• By participating in the Census of Agriculture, you help show the nation the value and importance of U.S. agriculture.

• This is your opportunity to tell how American agriculture provides food, fuel, and fiber to the world.

• By responding to the census, you have the power to influence decisions that will shape American agriculture for years to come, including:
  - transportation and marketing locations
  - farm services, programs, and policies
  - production practices and new technologies
YOUR FUTURE
Your Future

• By responding to the Census of Agriculture, you have a positive impact on the future of your operation and your community.

• The Census of Agriculture provides valuable information that will be used to plan the future, including:
  - community planning
  - farm succession planning
  - store/company locations
  - availability of operational loans and other funding
  - federal budget support for agriculture
YOUR OPPORTUNITY
Your Opportunity

• Your response to the Census of Agriculture makes a difference!

• To ensure that the best tools and reports are available, we need accurate information from ALL farmers and ranchers no matter how large or small your operation.

• Respond early and avoid follow-up contacts.

• Your response is required and protected by federal law.
BE COUNTED

There’s strength in numbers

Go to www.agcensus.usda.gov and sign up today!
Dates to Remember

June 30, 2017:
Sign-up period ends

December 2017:
Census mail out

February 5, 2018:
Census deadline

February 2019:
Census data available
Responding to the Census

• You are highly encouraged to complete the Census of Agriculture online at www.agcensus.usda.gov. New and improved this year, the online form is convenient and dynamic – you can access it on any electronic device. It’s user-friendly, calculates totals automatically and skips questions that do not pertain to your operation. This new online form saves time and effort.

• Alternatively, you may also respond by mail.
For more information

Visit www.agcensus.usda.gov

Follow @USDA_NASS on Twitter

Call (800) 727-9540